



BHK CHILD
DEVELOPMENT

ANNUAL REPORT 2021



"Where learning and playing come naturally"

700 Park Avenue
Houghton, MI 49931
bhkfirst.org



OUR COMMUNITIES

In the 47 years since BHK began, families and society have changed dramatically, but our commitment to partnering with families from at-risk backgrounds remains unwavering.

- Approximately 2,280 children ages birth to 5 live in BHK's service area of Baraga, Houghton, and Keweenaw Counties.
- Nearly 1 of 5 (18%) of children ages birth to 5 live in families with incomes below the federal poverty level, on average.
- BHK's Early Head Start (EHS) and Head Start (HS) programs served 85% of the qualifying families in the 2020-2021 program year.
- Baraga, Houghton, and Keweenaw Counties are designated as medically underserved for primary care, dental health, and mental health.
- The number of children ages 0-8 living in families with substantiated child abuse and/or neglect in the Copper Country has doubled in the last five years.
- There has been a 69% increase in children ages birth to five receiving special education services over the past five years (2015-2019).
- On average, 55% of Copper Country third graders are less than proficient in English Language Arts (reading), and 48% did not meet math proficiency on the M-STEP. (2021)

Sources: Michigan Kids Count (2021) and Office of Great Start, MDE and MDHHS Data Sheet (2021)



OUR PERFORMANCE

BHK is a leading provider of early childhood education and family support services in the region. Our community-based Head Start and Early Head Start programs are the gold standard of comprehensive early education and our teaching staff are some of the most trained and qualified early childhood professionals in the region.

Our commitment to promoting school readiness through an active learning approach gives young children the skills they need to be successful in school and life.

Highlights for 2020-2021

Following the state stay at home order, BHK resumed in-person services in July 2020 with a strong COVID-19 preparedness and response plan that aligned with regulatory authorities, the CDC, and local health department guidance. For families that desired at-home learning and during times of quarantine, BHK teachers offered a distance learning plan with synchronous and asynchronous options for families to best meet their needs and work/school schedules.



Throughout it all, BHK was fortunate to have resilient staff who adjusted to the numerous changes in local, state, and federal guidance and restrictions; additional expectations in screening, cleaning, face coverings, and distancing; and were able to pivot instructional methods efficiently and effectively as needed. Staff demonstrated agility, empathy, and a desire to serve the area's young children.

Federal Monitoring

The Aligned Monitoring System of Head Start measures the quality and accountability of programs across the country. In December 2019, the Administration for Children and Families conducted a monitoring review of BHK's Early Head Start and Head Start programs. BHK was found to be in full compliance with program requirements and standards of quality.

BY THE NUMBERS

355

Children served in EHS & HS

We give young children the high-quality education they deserve.

BHK provides a safe, healthy, nurturing environment with rich, supportive learning experiences for infants, toddlers, and preschool aged children.

30

HS Teachers & Assistant Teachers

21

EHS Primary Caregivers

6

Home-based Educators

26

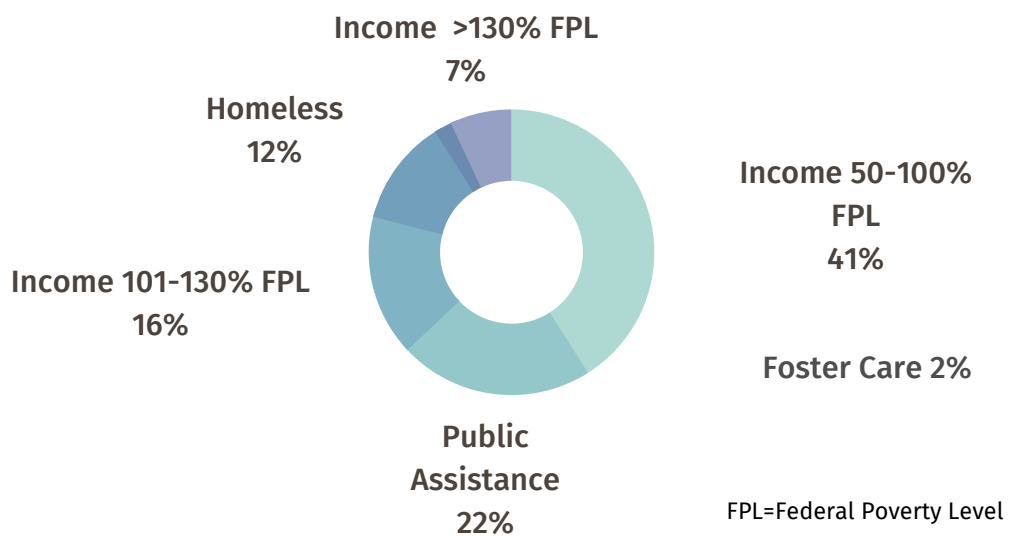
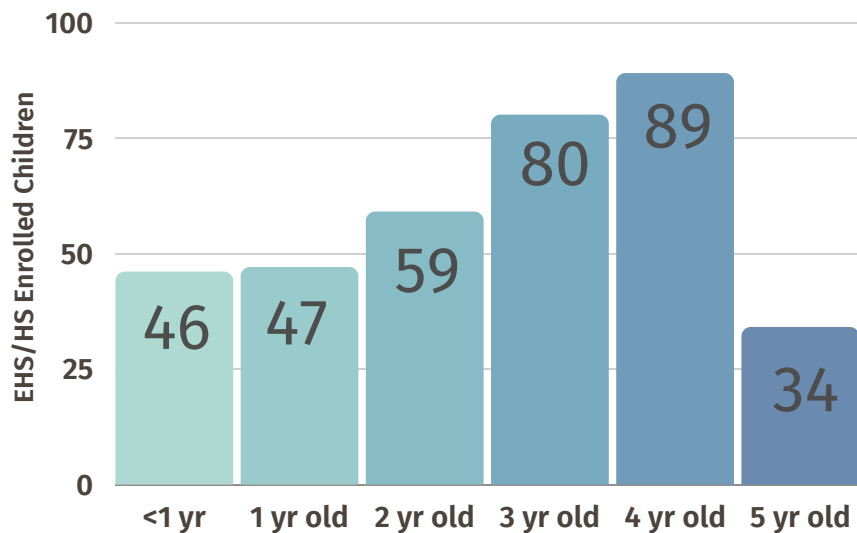
Classrooms

100+

Playgroups offered

64%

of children are enrolled multiple years



During the 2020-2021 program year, BHK EHS and HS classrooms had an average enrollment of 82% and 78% respectively.

SCHOOL READINESS

We prepare children to succeed.

Focusing our effort on qualifying children from birth through five years of age, we strive to give them a head start in life. Our classrooms are staffed by qualified teachers who continuously monitor children through evidence-based observational assessment. Results of these assessments are used to individualize our approach with each child. Children in our home-based program are visited by degreed staff who support parents in providing a stimulating learning environment at home. Weekly playgroups in multiple locations allow networking and interaction between both children and parents.

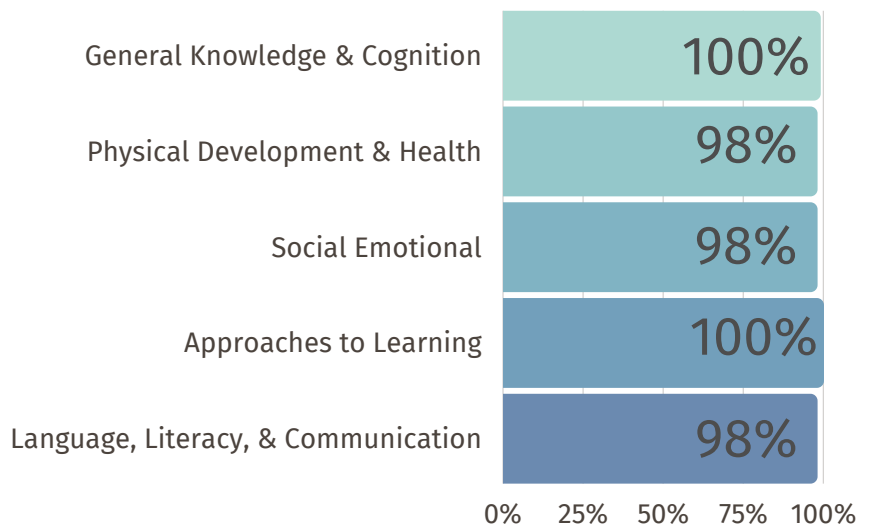
BHK's School Readiness Goals measure the essential early learning domains for school and long-term success.

97%

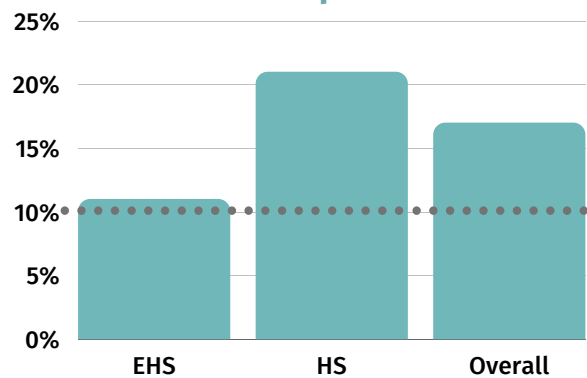
percent of families felt BHK at-home activities, newsletters, and resources increased their child's learning at home.

(BHK 2021 Parent Survey)

School Readiness Goal Achievement 4 yr-old averages: Spring 2021



Children with Special Needs



44 preschoolers and 16 infants/ toddlers received early intervention and/or special education services at BHK.

BHK FAMILIES

“BHK is amazing. The children are safe, valued, and educated.”

- BHK Parent, 2021



We value parents and families and encourage active involvement.

Each child is unique and presents their own personality, strengths, vulnerabilities, and interests. While research in early education informs best practices for engaging young learners - no one knows their child better than their family. A strong relationship between families and BHK staff is essential to promoting healthy child development and positive learning outcomes.



281

Families served in Prenatal to 5 Programs. 67% are 2-parent families.



13

Children were in foster care during enrollment



36

Families experienced homelessness



415

Volunteers at BHK. Parents make up 78% of our volunteer roster.

99%

percent of families reported the services their family received from BHK led to positive changes in their lives.

(BHK 2021 Parent Survey, 52% response rate)

Family Support Services Provided:

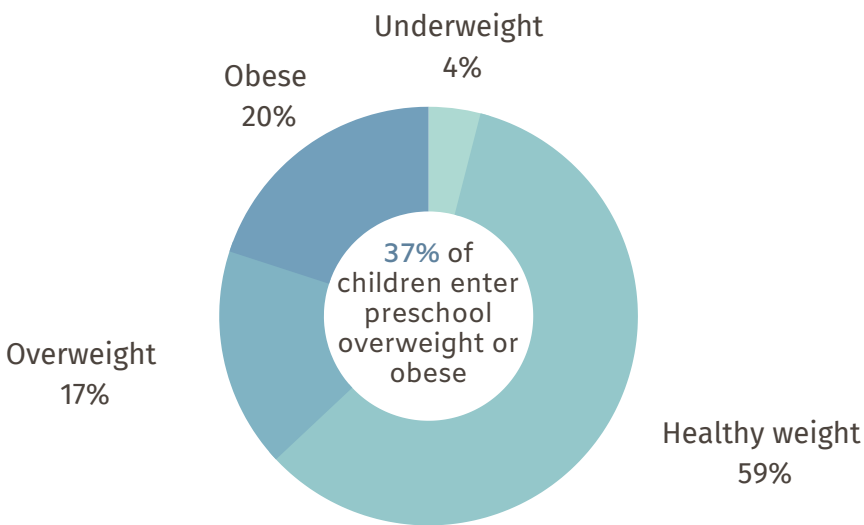
(of highest incidence)


- Parenting education & support
- Emergency, crisis intervention
- Health education
- Mental health services
- Enrollment in education or job training
- Supporting transitions


The way a child develops early in life directly affects future cognitive, social, emotional, language, and physical development, which in turn influences school readiness and later success in life.

100%
of children enrolled in BHK EHS & HS had health insurance

- 81% Medicaid or CHIP
- 19% Private Insurance




92%
of enrolled children had up-to-date recommended immunizations.


87%
of enrolled preschoolers had an established dentist


... only 49% of these preschoolers had a dental exam in the past year.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continued, health and dental providers faced interrupted and/or limited services which resulted in children missing or delaying routine well-child exams, preventative dental care, and treatment.

HEALTH OUTCOMES

School readiness begins with health.



99%
of children enrolled in BHK had continuous, accessible health care

89%
of enrolled children had up-to-date well child exams (93% in EHS; 85% in HS)

REVENUES

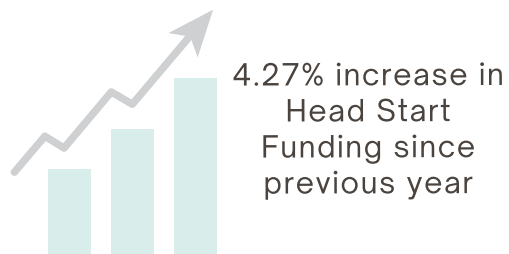
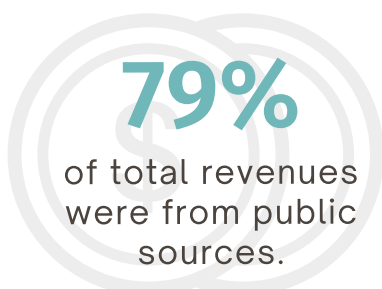
Depart. of Health & Human Services (Early Head Start & Head Start)	\$5,220,645
Department of Education (Great Explorations)	\$243,316
Corporation for National Services (AmeriCorps)	\$143,574
Depart. of Agriculture (Meal Reimbursements)	\$337,017
Michigan Department of Education (Great Start Readiness Program)	\$443,484
MI Depart. of Health & Human Services (Childcare subsidy)	\$130,809
Partnership Contracts (CCISD, CCGSC, & AmeriCorps Partner Payments)	\$150,248

Total Public Funds\$6,669,093

Other Grants (Foundations)	\$33,037
Childcare Receipts	\$71,384
Miscellaneous Income	\$17,194
Space Use Fees	\$63,051
In-Kind Services	\$1,548,193

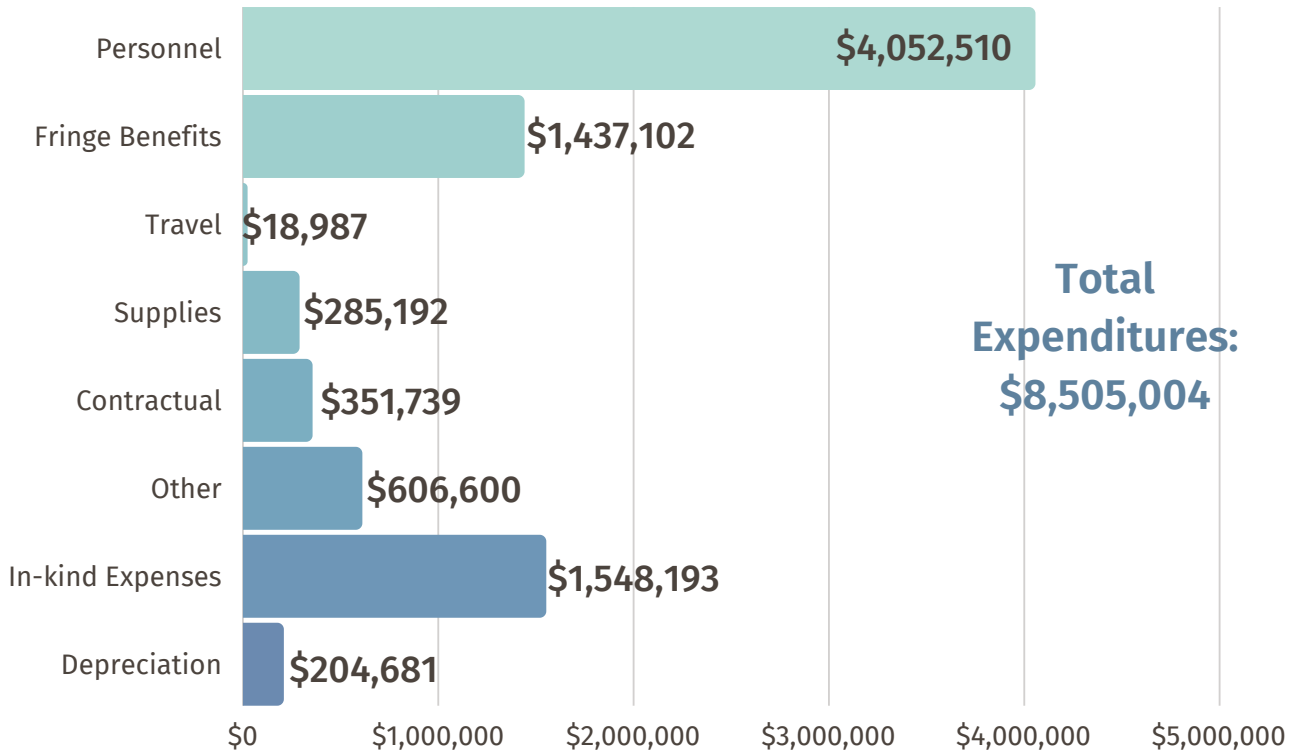
Total Private Funds\$1,732,859

2019-2020 Total Revenues: \$8,401,952

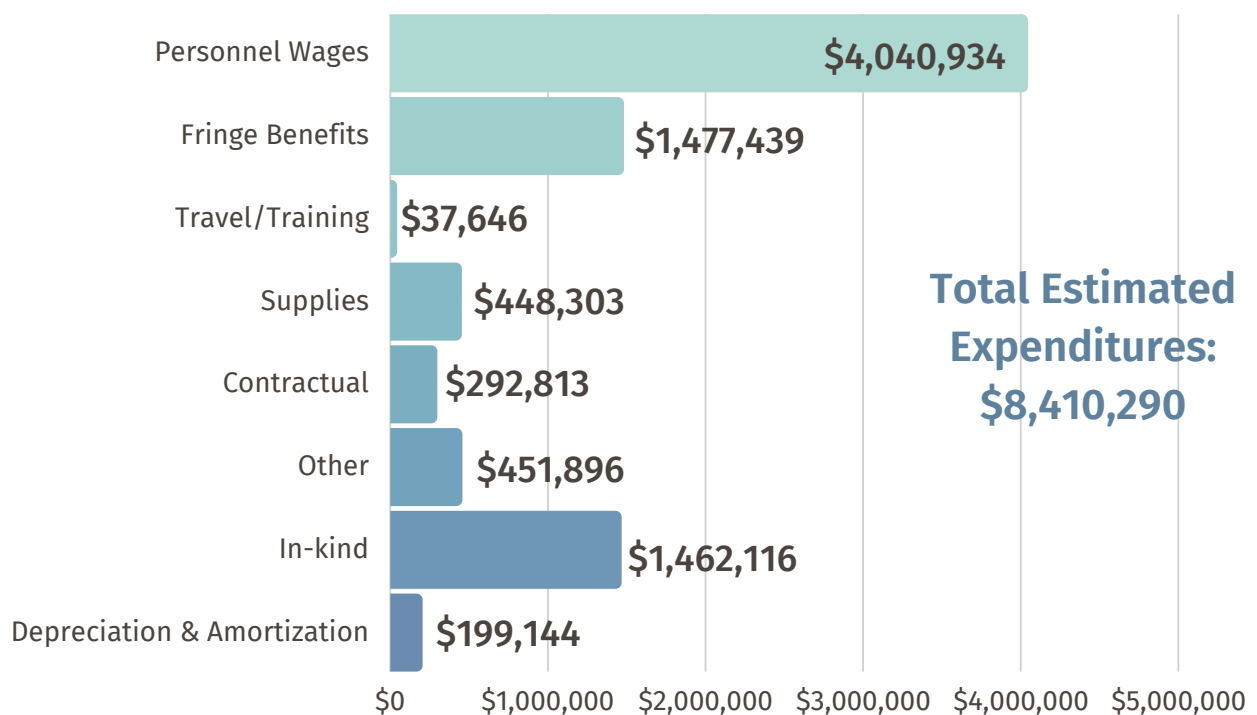


EXPENDITURES

2019-2020 Audited Budget



2020-2021 Estimated Expenditures





YOU CAN HELP US

Donate

Support critical activities not directly funded through grants such as scholarships for students, updating technology, equipment and facilities, and developing programs to better serve our children and families.

Tax-deductible donations can be made online at www.bhkfirst.org OR send directly to:



BHK Foundation
700 Park Avenue
Houghton, MI 49931

Consider making a donation in honor or memory of someone special. Planned gifts through estate, will, or trust may be arranged by calling the BHK Finance Office at 906-482-3663.

Volunteer

We encourage parents, family, and community members to volunteer their time and talents to help our children.

Here are some ways to help:

- Read to children
- Monitor bus rides
- Prep student activities for teachers
- Support children's activities as partners in play
- Facilitate small group time
- Assist on field trips

Be a Substitute

We are looking for committed individuals to complement our qualified educators who have a passion for teaching children and are willing to act as assistant teachers or classroom aides.

To find out more about how you can volunteer or become a substitute, please call BHK at 906-482-3663 or email Human Resources at HR@bhkfirst.org.

At BHK, we believe...

- Early learning is critical to success
- Children learn best through play, exploration and nurturing relationships
- We build community by investing in the whole child and supporting families to reach their full potential

BHK Vision:

Rooted in community, BHK is the visionary leader maximizing potential and inspiring growth.

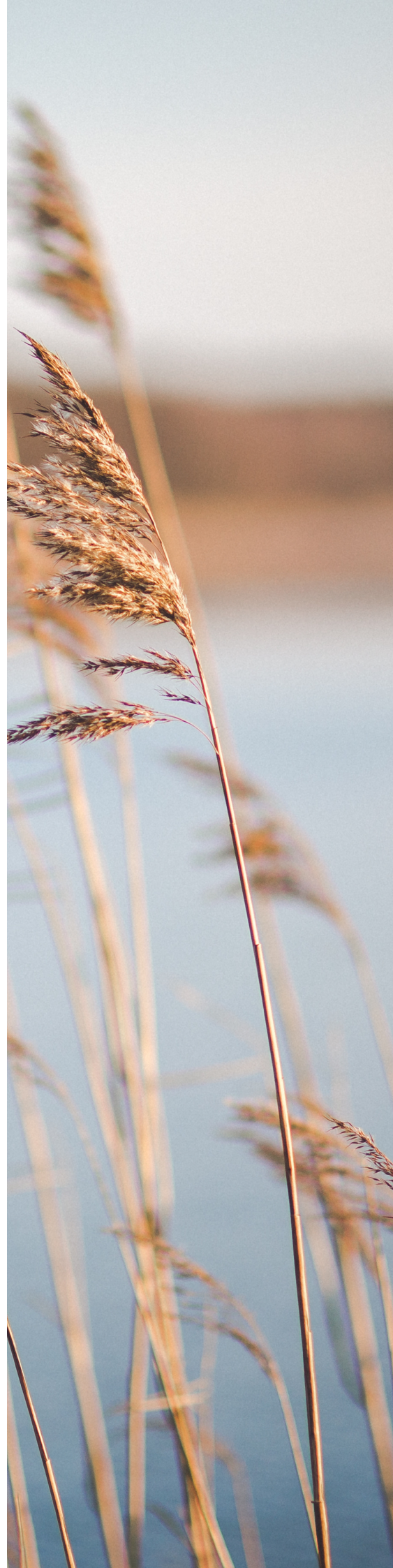
BHK Mission:

To build a foundation of knowledge and skills through education, leadership and collaboration.



BHK Board of Directors

- M. Koray Inal, Chairperson
- Tim Palosaari, Vice Chairperson
- Heath Johnson, Treasurer, Fiscal Expert
- Judy Pruner, Secretary
- Jaime Lishinski, Early Childhood Expert
- Jessica Mills, Parent/Policy Council Chairperson
- Kara Rozin, Attorney
- Gale Eilola
- Albert Koskela
- William Menge





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